

Appl. No. : 09/221,931  
Filed : December 28, 1998

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25. (Canceled)

Claim 26. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting telomerase activity ~~comprising a step of contacting in~~ cells exhibiting telomerase activity, comprising topically administering or injecting a catechin composition such that said cells are contacted by said composition, said composition comprising with a solution of a telomerase inhibitor comprising a catechin, wherein the concentration of the catechin in the solution is 15  $\mu$ M epigallocatechin gallate, wherein the concentration of epigallocatechin gallate in the solution is 5  $\mu$ M to 15  $\mu$ M.

Claim 27. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the ~~telomerase inhibitor catechin composition~~ comprises a green tea extract.

Claim 28. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the catechin ~~composition is comprises epigallocatechin gallate, a combination of epigallocatechin gallate with a catechin selected from the group consisting of~~ epigallocatechin, epicatechin gallate, or ~~and~~ epicatechin.

Claim 29. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the ~~telomerase inhibitor catechin composition~~ further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

Claim 30. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the ~~telomerase inhibitor catechin composition~~ comprises ~~the one or more~~ catechins in an amount of 90% to 95% by weight.

Claim 31. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 27, wherein the green tea extract is a dried powder that contains epigallocatechin gallate in an amount of at least 10 wt%.

Claim 32. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein an effective amount of the ~~telomerase inhibitor catechin composition~~ is administered to a human subject ~~having the cells exhibiting telomerase activity to contact the cells with the catechin~~.

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Claim 33. (Canceled)

Claim 34. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 33~~26~~, wherein the ~~telomerase inhibitor or catechin composition~~ is topically administered by ~~injection or plaster~~.

Claim 35. (New) A method of inhibiting telomerase activity comprising contacting cells exhibiting telomerase activity with a solution of a telomerase inhibitor consisting essentially of epigallocatechin gallate at a concentration of 5  $\mu\text{M}$  to 15  $\mu\text{M}$ .